

Tennessee Environmental News

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Tennessee Environmental Council
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Inside this Issue

Important News

Chattanooga Regional Opportunity Forum
Save the Date - 2008 Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee!
Stream Bank Restoration Work - Join us!
Council Membership Up 50%
Tennessee Ranks near Top for Carbon Emissions

Events

Jul. 24	Metro Planning Commission vote on Bells Bend development project
Aug. 8	Tennessee Small Farms Expo
Nov. 13-16	Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee

Take Action

Help Save Bells Bend!
Complete a Survey on Nashville Environment
Green your home and support the Council - go to www.letsqogreen.biz
Join the Council

IMPORTANT NEWS:

Sustainability Discussion Continues at the Chattanooga Regional Opportunity Forum (ROF).

On June 12, 75 individuals from around the Chattanooga area gathered at Warehouse Row to share ideas about creating a sustainable Tennessee. The highlight of the evening was a keynote address by S. David Freeman. Mr. Freeman is a Chattanooga native and a former chair of TVA, as well as an author and entrepreneur in the field of renewable energy. For more coverage of the Chattanooga ROF and of Mr. Freeman's presentation, [click here](#).

Date Announced for the 2008 Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee.

Building on the tremendous success of last year's Summit, Tennessee Environmental Council (the Council) and Tennessee Conservation Voters are pleased to announce the dates for the 2008 Summit: November 13-16. This year's Summit will again be held at Lipscomb University in Nashville and include discussion and collaboration on an agenda for Tennessee's environmental community. Visit the [Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee](#) website for updates.

The Council continues its Stream Bank Restoration Work - Join us!

Kyle Duvall, the Council's Organizational Advancement Director, who directs the Rutherford Creek/Duck River Watershed restoration, put together a team of Council and TSRA volunteers in June and July to lead stream bank restoration efforts in the Wyngate Estates Community of Spring Hill.



Volunteers install cedar revetments to curb stream bank erosion

A total of 28 volunteers responded to the call for help, and approximately 120 feet of stream bank was treated with cedar revetments, which were anchored to the stream bank and stacked in rows several feet high to stop soil erosion and water pollution.



Stream bank erosion caused by poor development practices

This is an example of stream bank erosion caused by the lack of "Best Management Practices" during construction. The developer decimated the trees on the stream bank that could have prevented property loss from severe soil erosion due to storm water runoff, which further added to the degradation of water quality in the Rutherford Creek and greater Duck River Watershed. This unnamed tributary flows into Grassy Branch, a polluted stream listed on TDEC's

303d impaired stream list. Trees will be planted in the fall to help restore the tributary to ecological health.
If you would like to volunteer please contact Claudia at 615-248-6500 or by emailing Claudia@tectn.org.

Outstanding New Membership Numbers for the Council!

Thanks to your dedication to the public health and natural resources in our state, the Council's membership numbers have increased approximately 50% over last year. We appreciate the support of our membership as we continue to grow and increase the work we are doing for Tennessee's environment. Core programs like stream bank restoration and the Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee continue to grow and succeed, and with the support of our membership, they will have a great future.

Tennessee is One of the Highest in the Nation for Carbon Emissions. *By Council Board Member, Michael Crosby (as published in the Tennessean)*

A recent Brookings Institution report placed Tennessee's four largest cities near the top of the list of the nation's carbon emitters. The combination of Nashville, Memphis, Knoxville, and Chattanooga release a whopping 39% more carbon per capita than the 100 largest American cities. Carbon emissions, primarily in the form of carbon dioxide, have been identified as a major contributor to global warming. [Click here](#) to read the entire article.

EVENTS:

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| Jul. 24 | Metro Planning Commission vote on Bells Bend development project: 6:00 pm at the "Metro Southeast" Building, 1417 Murfreesboro Pike (the old Genesco Building, east of the Briley Parkway intersection). Click here for more information. |
| Aug. 8 | Tennessee Small Farms Expo: TSU Agricultural Research and Extension Demonstration Farm in Ashland City. Please email fbullock@tnstate.edu for more info. |
| Nov. 13-16 | Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee: Lipscomb University, Nashville. Go to www.sustainabletn.org for updates. |

TAKE ACTION:

Help Save Bells Bend!

Right now we have the opportunity to help save a unique and important Middle Tennessee resource from development. Bells Bend is one of the last and largest remaining areas of open space and farmland remaining in Davidson County. Make your voice heard and tell the Metro Nashville Planning Commission that you don't want a 500 acre development in Bells Bend. [Click here](#) to read more about this important issue. [Click here](#) to read a sample letter.

Complete a Survey on Nashville Environment

Nashville's new mayor, Karl Dean, has a goal of making Nashville a more sustainable city. To that end, Mayor Dean has formed a Green Ribbon panel and is distributing a survey to collect the opinions and ideas of all Nashvillians about how to make the city greener. Do your part and complete a survey - it only takes a minute - go to www.nashville.gov/mayor/green_ribbon/index.htm

Support The Council with LetsGoGreen!

The Council is happy to introduce a new fundraising tool to you, and we think you're going to like it: letsgogreen.biz is an online company selling "green" products such as recycled paper products, eco-friendly cleaning materials, CFLs and water saving faucets, toilet banks, etc. All items are eco-friendly and designed to help save resources, money, or both. All you have to do is visit www.LetsGoGreen.biz, choose your products, and specify Tennessee Environmental Council at checkout so we can get credit. It couldn't be simpler. Please give it a try! Best of all, **the Council earns 25% of every dollar**, so your contribution can be substantial. Thanks for supporting the Council and please feel free to visit the site again and again as we will continue to get credit for all ongoing purchases.

Join The Council Today

Call Melissa or Kami at 615-248-6500 to get your membership packet, or check us out on the web at <http://www.tectn.org>.

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